

SECRET [REDACTED]

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## THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC 6414-80

23 September 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment  
National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM: Robert C. Ames  
National Intelligence Officer for Near East and South Asia

SUBJECT: Monthly Warning Assessment: Near East and South Asia

1. The Near East and South Asia monthly warning meeting was devoted to the production and coordination of an Alert Memorandum on the Iran-Iraq conflict. As that memorandum pointed out, the greatest immediate danger in the region is the disruption of shipping and oil exportation from the Persian Gulf as a result of the expanded conflict between Iran and Iraq. [REDACTED] 25X1

2. Following the meeting several Community representatives expressed concern over continued high tensions in Lebanon. [REDACTED] 25X1

3. The Palestinians have become increasingly concerned in recent weeks that Israel is planning to conduct another major military operation into southern Lebanon - probably before the U.S. elections. At least some of their concern appears to have been generated by Soviet warnings. We have no evidence that Tel Aviv is planning such an action, but note that rumors of an Israeli operation will keep the area tense. The Israelis have been carrying out "preventive" raids into southern Lebanon since mid-April in an effort to keep the Palestinians off guard and on the defensive. They have enough military resources near the border area to continue conducting short term operations requiring up to a brigade of troops without any significant preparations. [REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] 25X1

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4. Next month's meeting will re-examine the problems in Lebanon and consider longer term consequences of the Iran-Iraq conflict. If possible, representatives to the next meeting should be able to address both Middle East and South Asia issues. [REDACTED]

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*Robert C. Ames*  
Robert C. Ames

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Monthly Warning Assessment: Near East and South Asia

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NIO/NESA [REDACTED] (23 September 1980 [REDACTED])

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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